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Sport for peace and development: building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal

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Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/4 of 31 October 2007, in which it decided to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal", and recalling also its prior decision to consider the item every two years in advance of each Summer and Winter Olympic Games,

Recalling also its resolution 48/11 of 25 October 1993, which, inter alia, revived the ancient Greek tradition of *ekecheiria* ("Olympic Truce") calling for a truce during the Olympic Games that would encourage a peaceful environment and ensure the safe passage and participation of athletes and relevant persons at the Games, thereby mobilizing the youth of the world to the cause of peace,

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Taking into account the inclusion in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[1] of an appeal for the observances of the Olympic Truce now and in the future and support for the International Olympic Committee in its efforts to promote peace and human understanding through sport and the Olympic ideal,

Recognizing the valuable contribution that the appeal launched by the International Olympic Committee for an Olympic Truce could make towards advancing the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also the increasingly important role of sport in achieving internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and reaffirming the commitments undertaken in this regard by the Heads of State and Government gathered at the World Summit of the General Assembly, held in New York in 2005,

Recalling its resolution 63/135 of 11 December 2008, in which it recognized the value of sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace and welcomed the establishment of a United Nations Office of Sport for Development and Peace,

Recognizing that the goal of the Olympic movement is to build a peaceful and better world by educating the youth of the world through sport, practiced without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which is based on mutual understanding, friendship, solidarity and fair play,

Welcoming the joint endeavours of the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee and the United Nations system in such fields as human development, poverty alleviation, humanitarian assistance, health promotion, HIV and AIDS prevention, youth education, gender equality, peacebuilding and sustainable development,

Recalling the relevant articles on leisure, recreation, sport and play of international conventions, including article 30 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recognizing the right of persons with disabilities to take part on an equal basis with others in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport,

Noting that the XXI Winter Olympic Games will take place from 12 to 28 February 2010, and that the X Paralympic Winter Games will take place from 12 to 21 March 2010 in Vancouver, Canada, with the aim of upholding sport as an inspirational means to promote peace, inclusivity, indigenous participation, social and environmental responsibility and meaningful legacies for future generations,

Also noting that the inaugural Youth Olympic Games will take place from 14 to 26 August 2010, in Singapore, with the aim of inspiring the youth of the world through an integrated, sport, culture and education experience to embrace, embody and express the Olympic values,

Noting with satisfaction the flying of the United Nations flag at the competition sites of the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games,

1. *Urges* Member States to observe, within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations, the Olympic Truce, individually and collectively, during the XXI Winter Olympic Games and the X Paralympic Winter Games;

[1] See resolution 55/2.

2. *Welcomes* the decisions of the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee to mobilize international sports organizations and the National Olympic Committees and National Paralympic Committees of Member States to undertake concrete actions at the local, national, regional and world levels to promote and strengthen a culture of peace based on the spirit of the Olympic truce, and invites those organizations and national committees to share information and best practices, as appropriate;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee in their efforts to use sport as a tool to promote peace, dialogue and reconciliation in areas of conflict during and beyond the Olympic Games period;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote the observance of the Olympic Truce among Member States and support for human development initiatives through sport and to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee and the sporting community in general in the realization of those objectives;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal" and to consider the sub-item before the Games of the XXX Olympiad and the XIV Paralympic Games to be held in London in 2012.